

**JOINT STAFF REPORT
Fall FACT SHEET No. 1
Columbia River Compact
August 7, 2001**

<p>Purpose: To review non-Indian commercial fisheries and consider non-Indian commercial fishing options.</p>
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MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

- A 2001 Management Agreement for upper Columbia River fall chinook, steelhead, and coho has been reached by all parties for fall fisheries occurring in 2001.
- The 2001 fall Management Agreement allocates the 31.29% URB impact rate 23.04% for treaty Indian fisheries and 8.25% non-Indian fisheries.
- Based on pre-season run size forecasts and North of Falcon negotiations the catch expectation for commercial fisheries occurring during the first week of August was 3,700 chinook, including 320 URB's.
- Fisheries during 2001 will be managed not to exceed a catch of 9,300 white sturgeon.

COMMERCIAL FISHERY UPDATE

- At the January 25, 2001 hearing the Compact adopted a 12-hour (7 PM Sunday August 5- 7 am Monday August 6) sturgeon commercial fishery for the area below Longview Bridge.
- Preseason catch expectations were for landings of 1,500-3,000 white sturgeon, 500-1,500 green sturgeon, and 300 chinook.
- Effort was high with 150-175 fishers participating in this fishery
- Catches exceeded preseason catch expectations with landings of 4,544 white sturgeon, 317 green sturgeon, 1,190 chinook, and 197 coho.
- Based on VSI data, chinook catch was comprised of 59% bright stock and 41% tule stock as compared to the preseason estimates of 44% bright stock and 56% tule stock.
- Based on inseason VSI data and preseason modeling assumptions an estimated 140 URB's were landed in this fishery.
- Through August 6 an estimated 8,100 white sturgeon have been landed in commercial fisheries which leaves 1,200 white sturgeon remaining on 9,300 fish quota.

FISHERY PROPOSAL

<i>Joint Staff Recommendation</i>	
Adopt the following salmon fishing periods for the mainstem Columbia River:	
Season:	7 PM Wednesday August 8 to 7 AM Thursday August 9 (12 hours)
Area:	Mouth upstream to Longview Bridge.
Sanctuaries:	Grays River, Big Creek, Gnat Creek, and Elokomina-A.
Gear:	9" minimum and 9¾" maximum mesh size restrictions.
Allowable Sales:	Salmon only. No sturgeon sales allowed.
Expected Catch:	1,500-2,500 chinook

- ✓ Based on inseason VSI data and preseason modeling assumptions an estimated 175-290 URB's would be expected to be landed in the proposed fishery which would result in a total URB catch of 315-430 URB fall chinook.
- ✓ Fishery is consistent with fall Management Agreement and results of North of Falcon negotiation process.
- ✓ Allows additional opportunity to catch chinook with minimal URB impacts and no impacts on sturgeon allocation.
- ✓ Provides access to tule fall chinook in the lower river when in marketable condition
- ✓ Allows opportunity to gain information and collect data concerning salmon fisheries during the early August time frame.
- ✓ Preseason modeling and results of target sturgeon fishery indicates that majority of catch will be tule fall chinook.
- ✓ Chinook catch is expected to remain within 3,700 chinook catch expectation for this fishery.

Future Compact Hearing

- A Compact hearing is also scheduled for 10 AM Friday August 17, 2001 at the Water Resources Education Center located at 4600 SE Columbia Way, Vancouver, Washington for the purpose of reviewing salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon stock status and considering treaty Indian and non-Indian commercial fishing options.

Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
August 7, 2001

